



Press Release

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Decision Made on Zeneca and Richmond Field Station Sites *Cal/EPA Announces Decision Regarding Lead Regulatory Oversight Responsibilities*

Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency, Alan C. Lloyd, announced today that the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is the lead regulatory oversight agency for the entirety of the Zeneca/former Stauffer Chemical and the University of California, Richmond Field Station site, contiguous sites located on the bay in Richmond, California.

"The challenges presented by these sites, as well as their close proximity to one another and nearby residences and businesses, warrant a single regulatory oversight agency," said Secretary Lloyd. "I also believe that oversight by a single agency will provide the public with a single point of contact to foster better communication and understanding of environmental conditions and site activities and ensure that the various site activities are fully coordinated"

In overseeing the site investigation and cleanup activities, DTSC will closely coordinate its efforts with the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to ensure that all cleanup activities for both sites fully comply with the Regional Board's permits and requirements.

Prior to the Secretary's decision, the Regional Board had been the lead regulatory agency overseeing the wetlands restoration at the Zeneca/former Stauffer Chemical site, and the entirety of the investigation and cleanup of the Richmond Field Station site. DTSC, in an agreement reached in November 2004, had been the lead regulatory agency overseeing site activities on the upland portion of the former Stauffer Chemical site.

With today's announcement, both agencies will be developing the legal documents necessary to transfer the oversight, and will provide additional information when that process is complete.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

The San Francisco Water Quality Control Board is one of nine regional boards reporting to the State Water Board and the California Environmental Protection Agency. Among its principal duties, the Board sets region-wide water quality standards and activity-specific waste discharge requirements, enforces both federal and state water quality statutes, regulates cleanup of sites which pose an immediate or potential threat to water quality and educates the public on water quality issues.

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